Operating Instructions
The Tom Thumb Typewriter

Remove cardboard fillers, paper, and rubber band from ribbon rolls.

BEFORE TYING ON THIS MACHINE, PLEASE DO THIS:
GRASP PLATEN KNOBS AND, WHILE HOLDING DOWN CARRIAGE RELEASE LEVER, MOVE CARRIAGE RIGHT AND LEFT SEVERAL TIMES. THIS ACTION WILL FREE ANY SLIGHT TENSION WHICH MAY HAVE DEVELOPED AS A RESULT OF HANDLING IN SHIPMENT.

Insert paper between Platen and Paper Guide and roll into position with one of the two Platen knobs (see Fig. 1). Straighten paper by pushing down on the top of Paper Guide. This releases pressure against the paper, and permits it to be moved for alignment with Platen. The Paper Roll rests on top of the paper and holds it smoothly against Platen.

FIG. 1

Whenever moving carriage to starting position, press down on Carriage Release Lever; this permits carriage to move freely and prevents undue wear on Spacer parts.

Letters of the alphabet on the Tom Thumb keyboard are of standard arrangement, thus permitting the operator to use the "touch system" of typing.

This system is the easiest known method of typing, and with practice, the operator is soon able to type without looking at the keys.

To use this method on your Tom Thumb, simply place the fingers on the keys as shown in Fig. 2. The little finger of the left hand rests on Key "A," and the little finger of the right hand rests on "Fig. Shift Key." These eight keys are called the "Home" keys. From these starting points, each finger has its own particular "zone" or group of keys to operate. (See Fig. 2 for the proper grouping of keys for each finger.) This is the important point of the "Touch System." A finger strikes only those keys in its own zone and returns to its home position.
To practice the touch system, try typing this sentence:

"The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog's back."

This sentence contains every letter of the alphabet, and therefore is excellent practice in learning the keyboard. As soon as possible, try to type without watching the keys.

To type capital letters, the carriage must be shifted, or raised. For capital letters to be typed with the right hand, use the Capital Shift Key on the left. Press it down with the little finger of the left hand. For capital letters to be typed with the left hand, use the Capital Shift Key on the right.

The Capital Shift Keys may be held down while typing only an occasional capital letter, but should you desire to type several words or more in capitals, it is easier to lock the Shift Key into position. To do this, push the key down and forward. The carriage is now locked in position to type capitals. To release carriage, pull BACK on the key.

The Figure Shift Key raises the carriage still higher to print figures and other characters, and is locked in the same manner as the Capital Shift Keys.

The Tom Thumb Typewriter is equipped with ten feet of standard 14-inch typewriter ribbon. Small staples placed several inches from each end of the ribbon prevent ribbon from unwinding entirely off the Ribbon Rolls. These staples stop against Ribbon Guides when ribbon nears the end and prevent further travel. Direction of travel must then be reversed by moving Ribbon Shift Lever in opposite direction.

Additional ribbons may be purchased from Western Stamping Company for $1.00. Price subject to change without notice.

This Tom Thumb Typewriter was subjected to careful inspection and was found to be in excellent condition before shipment from our plant.

While this machine is essentially a toy and was designed to stand up under normal mistreatment, reasonable care should be taken in its handling.

Tom Thumb Educational Toys

Tom Thumb Cash Register

Western Stamping Co.

JACKSON, MICHIGAN, U.S.A.